



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EST (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - February 10, 2003**

- ***In the West***, mild, dry weather favors fieldwork, but most of the region continues to experience a variety of drought-related concerns. Effects of long-term **Western** precipitation deficits include low reservoir levels, drought-stressed rangelands, and below-normal mountain snow packs, especially east of the **Sierra Nevada**.
- ***On the Plains***, snow showers continue to bolster a shallow snow cover in winter wheat areas across **northern portions of the region**. Meanwhile on the **southern Plains**, conditions remain mostly favorable for overwintering wheat.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, bitterly cold weather is maintaining stress on livestock in the **upper Midwest**, while snow is boosting soil moisture reserves across **eastern parts of the region**.
- ***In the South***, beneficial showers linger in the **southern Atlantic region**, accompanied by very warm weather across **Florida**. Cool, dry weather is overspreading the remainder of the region. February rainfall has improved **Southern** topsoil moisture levels, following an extremely dry January.

**Outlook:** A fast-moving East Coast storm system will bring light snow to the **Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern States** today. By Tuesday, a strong cold front will provide bitterly cold weather and snow showers to the **Great Lakes region, Appalachians, and Northeast**. In the **Southwest**, much-needed rain and mountain snow will develop as a strong Pacific storm moves onshore. Elsewhere, mild, dry weather will prevail across the **southern Plains and Gulf Coast States**. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for February 15-19 calls for mostly dry weather in the **northern Plains, Midwest, and Northwest**, but above-normal precipitation across much of the **South and East**, including **southern California, Texas**, and the **Mid-Atlantic region**. Below-normal temperatures are forecast to persist from the **Midwest into the Northeast**, but near-normal temperatures are expected across most of the remainder of the U.S.

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